

their church family Johnson Memorial Baptist Church is impressive and deserving of special recognition and honor. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Thomas and Audrey Johnson on their many years of love and commitment. May their life together continue to be full of joy and offer them many pleasant memories.

HONORING GEORGE KNIERIM

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2000

Mr. UDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the passing of a special brand of American hero. George Knierim was an ordinary citizen who devoted his abundant skills to realize his vision of the United States aid effort in the third world. For 30 years, Knierim worked for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), sharing his agricultural knowledge, training, and expertise with governments and farmers in Nepal, Iraq, India, Afghanistan, Turkey, and Sri Lanka.

USAID had its origins in President Truman's Inaugural Address of 1949 when he said, "Only by helping the least fortunate of our members to help themselves can the human family achieve the decent, satisfying life that is the right of all people." This vision energized and motivated a generation of technical advisors to work in agriculture, education, and infrastructure improvements in remote, developing regions of the world. Knierim and his colleagues had an impact on the lives of countless people as they shared the benefits of our extensive American experience. He used his single-minded passion to help protect fragile environments, provide pure water supplies, improve irrigation practices and improve varieties of cereal grains for the developing world. Although he received much recognition for his work, he considered his most prestigious title to be "American Farmer." Among the many and varied achievements of his career, the one that pleased him most was the opportunity to reinvent and adapt Nineteenth century-style farm implements for use with Asian draft animals. "I just gave them the tools and ideas that the Mormons brought with them into the Salt Lake Valley," he said.

George Knierim is symbolic of the thousands of men and women who sacrificed the comfort of their homeland and family in the United States to share techniques and technology with people for whom simple existence and subsistence was a daily challenge.

Our nation has been blessed because of the contributions of compassionate people like George Knierim, who carried their kindness throughout the globe. Today, Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to George Knierim, who shared a portion of the American dream with the world.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2000

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in my district on January 31, 2000 and missed Recorded Votes #2 (Authorizing the Use of the Rotunda for Holocaust Memorial) and #3 (the Hillary J. Farias and Samantha Reid Date-Rape Prevention Drug Act of 1999).

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on final passage of H. Con. Res. 244 and "aye" on final passage of H.R. 2130, on January 31, 2000.

INTRODUCTION OF A PRIVATE RELIEF BILL FOR LEILANI WINNEFRED TOOLEY

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2000

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce legislation to grant permanent residence to Leilani Tooley.

Leilani was adopted from China when she was less than one year old to a United States citizen father and a Micronesian mother. Through the 1980's when Leilani was a child, her father was a teacher, traveling throughout the Marshall Islands. Due to a translation error in China, an attempt to convey resident status upon Leilani was denied.

Leilani and her parents moved to the United States in 1992. Leilani was admitted as a CFA/FSM resident which allows her to remain in the United States legally but does not allow her to attend postsecondary school or to become a permanent resident or citizen. From 1992 through 1998, Leilani was eligible for citizenship by virtue of her living in the United States and being the adopted daughter of a United States citizen. Unfortunately, the naturalization process was never completed prior to her father's death in 1998. When her father passed away, Leilani's permanent resident mother began the naturalization process herself so that when completed, she could then convey permanent residence to her daughter. Unfortunately, Leilani's mother died in 1999, prior to her being naturalized.

Leilani is now alone in this country with no living relatives. She cannot return to China since she speaks no Chinese and she was released from that country when she was less than a year old, and she cannot return to the Pacific Islands since she was Chinese at birth. All of Leilani's friends and schoolmates are in the United States and it is only due to a string of unfortunate events that Leilani is not today a naturalized citizen. Leilani is a bright, industrious young lady, whose wish is to attend college. However, until this legislation is signed into law, her aspirations are on hold. I urge the swift passage of this bill, Mr. Speaker, to grant permanent residence to Leilani Tooley.

February 10, 2000

TRIBUTE TO HAMPTON POLICE CHIEF PAT MINETTI

HON. HERBERT H. BATEMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2000

Mr. BATEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding constituent in my district, Pat Minetti. I would like to read a letter I sent to Pat in early January before we came back in session and then expand upon it with these remarks.

Dear Pat, it is with great pleasure that I write this letter of congratulations to you on the occasion of your retirement after an extraordinary tenure of 45 years as a member of the Hampton Police Division. Your commitment to your job is exemplified in the number of years of your dedicated service and your immeasurable accomplishments. In your 27 years as Chief, you achieved your goals and the Hampton Police force and the City of Hampton are better for it. I know the City of Hampton is proud to count you among one of its finest and is greatly indebted to you. Please know that Laura and I wish you the best in retirement.

Pat Minetti was a truly outstanding law enforcement officer and Chief of Police. His service to his community and its citizens has been honorable and faithful for 45 years. The story of Pat's service reflects the devotion to duty, family and community that helps to keep this nation, America, safe for families and individual citizens.

The son of Italian immigrants, Pat was born and raised in New Castle, Pennsylvania. As a young man, Pat worked in the steel mills and as a lumberjack while attending school. From his parents, and through his experiences growing up, he learned the important values of integrity, hard work and devotion to God, family and service.

Pat moved to Hampton, Virginia in 1955 and joined the Hampton Police Division. He started as a patrolman, walking a beat and serving families and small business. He was quickly recognized for his enthusiasm for law enforcement and genuine concern for the safety and rights of all citizens. He diligently worked through each rank, and with his unwavering desire to serve his citizens, he always applied himself to the most challenging operational positions out in the community. In 1972, his potential for senior leadership combined with his gifts and skills in law enforcement led the Mayor and the City Manager to select him to become Hampton's Chief of Police, a position he held for the past 28 years.

Pat's remarkable career, spanning the terms of eight Mayors and six City Managers, reflects a truly exceptional dedication to serving others and the ability to lead and grow an organization through long-term vision, passion and law enforcement expertise. Among his many accomplishments, Pat holds an MPA Degree from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government where he was elected Class Marshall. He also is a graduate of the 92nd Session of the FBI National Academy where he was awarded the J. Edgar Hoover Certificate of Scholastic Excellence.

Pat served as the 1989 President of the FBI National Academy Associates and is a past

President of the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police. At the national level, he served as a member of the National Law Enforcement Council during President Bush's Administration. At the state level, he served as a member of Governor Wilder's Commission on Violent Crime, where he chaired the Task Force Subcommittee on Crime Prevention. Under Governor Allen's Administration, he served as a member of the Joint Subcommittee examining laws regarding handicapped parking.

Pat was awarded the prestigious Presidential Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police in August 1998, only the third such award to be presented since the organization was established in 1926.

Pat's selfless service and dedication to Hampton, Virginia's citizens and law enforcement has earned him the respect and admiration of his beloved community and the many police officers and local, state and national officials who have been associated with him over the past 45 years. Pat continues to live in Hampton with his wife, Donnie, who has shared the thrills and hardships of being a police wife for more than 43 years. He has two daughters and four grandchildren, with whom he enjoys spending time.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Pat and his family for their service to Hampton, its citizens and the Commonwealth of Virginia and I wish for them all God's blessings in the years to come.

IN MEMORY OF THEODORE
KARABINUS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Theodore Karabinus, a community leader, political activist, and a good friend.

A true patriot, Mr. Karabinus was a highly decorated veteran of the U.S. Marines who served in both World War II and the Korean Conflict. He was also a member of the Pearl Harbor Survivor's Association. After retiring from the military, Mr. Karabinus embarked on a career with a local telephone company, where he worked for thirty years. He was dedicated to the advancement of working men and women and was a highly respected union leader in Cleveland, Ohio. He also served as President of the Communication Workers of America.

Mr. Karabinus's extensive humanitarian efforts demonstrate his commitment to improving the lives of others. He was actively involved for fifty years in organizations that supported civil rights. As a troop leader for the Boy Scouts of America, Mr. Karabinus shared his experience and wisdom with young men in Cleveland. He also reached out to the senior citizens in the community and assisted those who needed help with completing their tax return forms.

Mr. Karabinus was a political activist in Northeast Ohio and has been involved in numerous political campaigns including local and presidential campaigns. He also worked with

the Committee on Political Education, which strives to encourage the youth of America to be involved in our democratic process.

I treasured my friendship with Mr. Karabinus and am certain that his contributions to our community will never be forgotten. He was an outstanding American and will be missed greatly by those of us privileged to know him.

TRIBUTE TO FILLMORE, NEW
YORK

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2000

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to extend my most sincere congratulations to the community of Fillmore, New York, as it enters its Sesquicentennial Year. This vibrant community, located in Allegany County, in the Town of Hume, enjoys a long and proud history in the State of New York. Celebrations surrounding the 150th Anniversary are planned for this coming May 27 to 29, 2000.

Fillmore is, of course, named after the thirteenth President of the United States, Millard Fillmore, who in 1850 was responsible for the establishment of a Post Office in the then existing settlement. Coincidentally, in addition to this being the community's sesquicentennial, the year 2000 also marks the 200th anniversary of President Fillmore's birth.

Born on what was then the "frontier", in the Finger Lakes region of New York, Millard Fillmore rose from serving on his family farm to serving in the U.S. House of Representatives, the New York State government, and finally as Vice President and President of the United States. In fact, Mr. Speaker, in this very building, in the Old House Chamber, there is a plaque marking the location of then-Congressman Fillmore's desk. The spirit of hard work and rugged dedication shown by President Fillmore throughout his life is certainly carried on by this small but vibrant community that bears his name.

Fillmore's idyllic, pastoral setting in the Allegheny Mountain Range at the top of the Appalachian Region, makes it a beautiful natural local surrounded by attractions such as Letchworth State Park and the Swain Ski Resort. But the people of Fillmore make the community the success that it is today.

The citizens of Fillmore are very proud of their community, and rightly so. For the past 150 years, Fillmore has contributed much to our region, state and nation. From the character and successes of its young people—both those who remain in Fillmore and those who have moved on to serve other communities around the nation—to many of its citizens who have fought and sacrificed their lives on the world's battlefields.

One of Fillmore's greatest assets is their outstanding public school. Fillmore Central School, led by Superintendent Dave Hanks, is a shining example of rural public education at its finest—from its top notch instruction of subjects such as mathematics and social studies, to a firm commitment to technology, and the provision of creative outlets for young people to participate in the arts through drama,

visual arts, and music. As an added benefit, the mighty Fillmore Eagles have, on many occasions, brought great pride to the community by bringing home titles in sports such as basketball and tennis, and just last year made it to New York State's "Final Four" in soccer.

Before I close, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize one of Fillmore's greatest public servants, Alton Saylor, who passed away recently after years of service to the community, particularly as a member of the Allegany County Legislature for the past twenty-two years. We miss him greatly, and will remember him most during this celebration of Fillmore's history—a history that he helped shape.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join me in extending our most hearty congratulations to Fillmore on the occasion of their 150th anniversary.

IMPROVING THE IMPACT AID
PROGRAM

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2000

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to reauthorize and to make further improvements to the Impact Aid Program, Title VIII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. As you know, Impact Aid is part of the basic financial support for local school districts whose boundaries include military bases and other federal lands in lieu of local taxes which ordinarily support public schools.

In my congressional district, Impact Aid is an element of the basic financial support for schools in Cumberland, Robeson, Hoke, Richmond and Scotland Counties, just as local taxes support other school districts. In some cases, Impact Aid supplies a significant portion of school districts' operating budgets. For example, in Cumberland County, home of Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base, over one-third of the school district's budget comes from Impact Aid and other Federal education programs. In fact, the Cumberland County school system receives the most Impact Aid of any other school systems in North Carolina.

The "Impact Aid Reauthorization Act of 2000" builds on key improvements to the Impact Aid program enacted during the 103rd Congress. At that time, the program was rewritten so it would focus Impact Aid dollars on those school districts most heavily impacted by a Federal presence. Those changes have been extremely successful in getting funding to schools in greatest need of assistance, thus enabling them to improve the quality of education provided to students. In addition, those amendments created greater support in Congress for funding Impact Aid, and we have seen consistent increases in the Impact Aid budget ever since. The legislation I am introducing today will further improve the program, and should lead to even stronger support among colleagues for funding key needs in federally impacted school districts. As in my Congressional district, many of the children affected by this law are the children of members of the Armed Services. And, I believe all of